

utter ruin and desolation! What has become of the reason, the patriotism, and the Christianity of our people!

I am not as much elated by my election as I expected to be.¹ So many of my friends are beaten that I feel lonesome and dejected. I bore with great fortitude the falsehoods and villainies of the canvass but I am exceptionally annoyed by a rumor started by the Destructives: to the effect that I had "changed my bow." I am now more firmly fixed and determined in my political opinions than I ever was in my life. I feel satisfied that my views cannot now be carried out, but with the most fearless confidence I am content to "watch and wait." I feel sure that the future will show the wisdom of our course. Our views must prevail or the country will be sunk in the abyss of subjugation and other ruin.

How many friends will we have in the Legislature? I want only to know those who can be relied on implicitly, & who can stand the fire? I want to think over carefully some plan for inaugurating some peace movement in the legislature. I will try to have my views mustered. We must do something although the State has declared against us. I am for holding on the ship amidst all the storms and peril. We are overthrown but still I am not conquered. I want to see you very much and have a full talk. I think I will visit Raleigh before the meeting of the legislature. I want you to write to me and give yr views of matters generally. We have stood together in trying and dark times before—and I still call out to you with confidence—"Watchman what of the night?"—I know full well that the morn is not yet breaking. Write soon.

Your friend,
Robt. P. Dick

¹ Dick was elected to the state Senate in 1864. Cheney, *North Carolina Government, 1585-1979*, 331.

Robt P Dick to Holden

DU:Holden

Greensboro
Feby. 24, 1865

My Dear Holden.

I have just seen the *Standard* and read my Remarks¹ They are very accurately printed, and I thank you for the care you took in the proof &c. I was very anxious for you to have written the *last scene in the Senate*, as you could have made a good & effective article out of it. I know that you will have my speech well printed. I send you \$5 for some extra copies which you can send by mail.